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COMMUNICATION

The European Patent Office herewith transmits as an enclosure the European search report for the above-mentioned European patent application.

If applicable, copies of the documents cited in the European search report are attached.

☐ Additional set(s) of copies of the documents cited in the European search report is (are) enclosed as well.

The following specifications given by the applicant have been approved by the Search Division:

☐ abstract

☒ title

☒ The abstract was modified by the Search Division and the definitive text is attached to this communication.

The following figure will be published together with the abstract:

3

REFUND OF THE SEARCH FEE

If applicable under Article 10 Rules relating to fees, a separate communication from the Receiving Section on the refund of the search fee will be sent later.





DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category | Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages | Relevant to claim | CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7) |
|---|---|---|--|
| X | PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 2000, no. 09, 13 October 2000 (2000-10-13) -& JP 2000 178925 A (TESAC CORP), 27 June 2000 (2000-06-27) | 1-3,5,6, 8,9,11, 12 | E01F7/04 |
| Y | * abstract; figure 10 * --- | 4 | |
| X | US 2 079 034 A (PARKIN HARRY M) 4 May 1937 (1937-05-04) | 8-12 | |
| Y | * figure 3 * --- | 4 | |
| X | US 6 347 903 B1 (KNIGHTON GEORGE STUART) 19 February 2002 (2002-02-19) * column 4, line 66 - column 10, line 20; figure 3 * ----- | 8,9,11, 12 | |
| | | | TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7) |
| | | | E01F E04H |
| The present search report has been drawn up for all claims | | | |
| Place of search THE HAGUE | | Date of completion of the search 15 April 2003 | Examiner Severens, G |
| CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS | | | |
| X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document | | | |
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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

EP 02 42 5710

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report.
The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
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15-04-2003

| Patent document cited in search report | Publication date | Patent family member(s) | Publication date |
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| JP 2000178925 A | 27-06-2000 | NONE | |
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ABSTRACT / ZUSAMMENFASSUNG / ABREGE

02425710.7

A method for making knots of retaining nets, such as rock and avalanche fences, wherein a knot consists of a first and second rope (2,3) crossing over each other and a junction binding said ropes, comprises the steps of placing a first and a second U element (7a,8a) astride said first rope (2) and adjacent to said second rope (3) on opposite sides thereof, linking the ends of the first U element to the ends of the second U element by means of bridge elements (9,9d) overlying said second rope (3), and clamping said bridge elements on said second rope (3).